

Wyoming DDCT Training

U.S. Forest Service



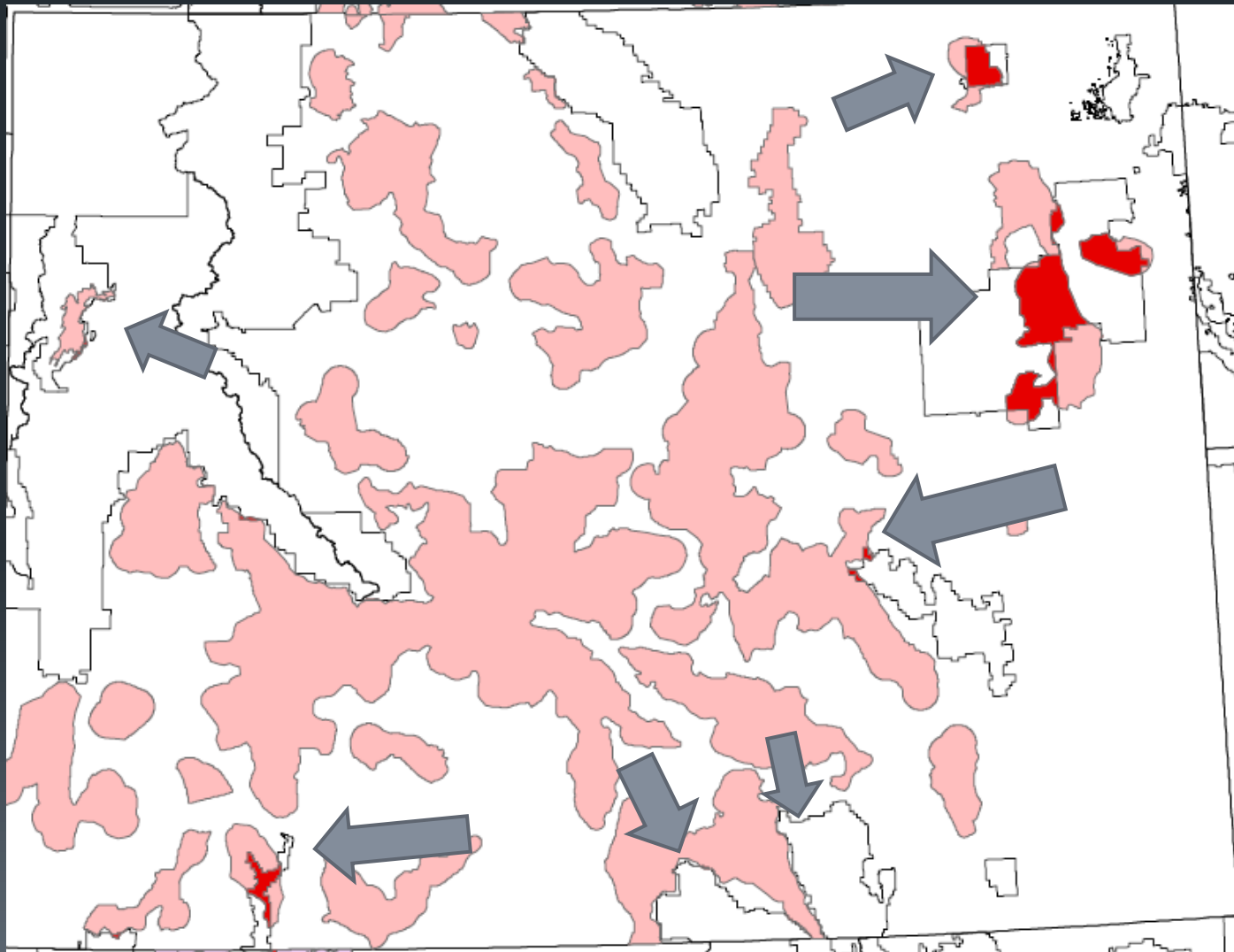
FOREST SERVICE MANUAL

Maintain, enhance and restore sage-grouse habitats, populations and connectivity.

Give priority to areas determined to have important sage-grouse populations, breeding sites or seasonal habitats, such as areas identified in the Wyoming Core Area Strategy, state-led and local working group sage-grouse plans, conservation agreements, and Forest Plans.



CORE AREAS ASSOCIATED WITH FOREST SERVICE LANDS



Forest Service Interim Direction

These recommendations should be considered for proposed actions on the 20 Forest Service units involved in the sage-grouse LRMP amendment process until their plan amendment decision is finalized





- **Determine, in coordination with the respective state wildlife agency, whether a proposal that may affect sage-grouse or sage-grouse habitats would likely have more than minor adverse effects to sage-grouse or sage-grouse habitat.**
- **NFS units retain the discretion to not move forward with an action, or to defer making a final decision, until the completion of the LRMP amendment process described in the National sage-grouse Planning Strategy for the affected area.**

The purposes of these recommendations are to

- **Protect remaining expanses of unfragmented habitats;**
- **Minimize further loss of fragmented habitat;**
- **Enhance and restore habitat conditions to meet sage-grouse life history needs.**

Forest Service Interim Direction

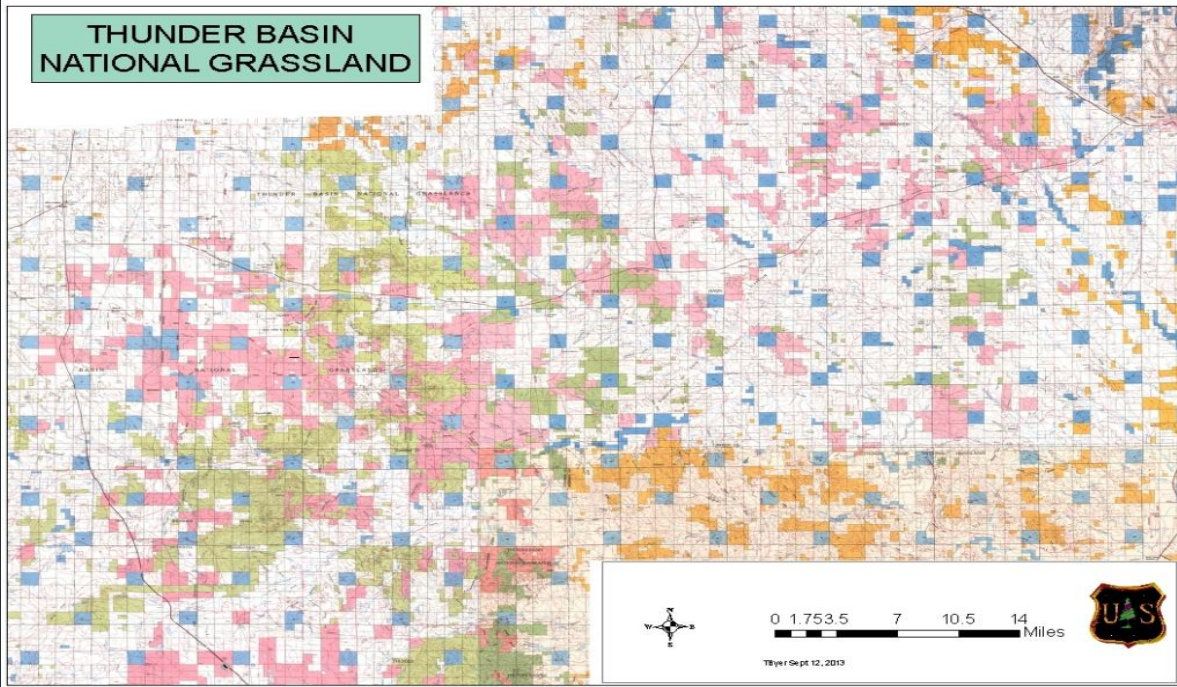
Includes specific recommendations for

- All Proposed Actions
- Integrated Vegetation Management
- Wildfire Suppression (5130 – Wildland Fire Suppression)
- Post Fire Restoration
- Recreation and Non-Recreation (Roads, Power lines, Pipelines, Non-mineral Energy Development) Special Use Authorizations (SUAs)
- Minerals Management
- Grazing Administration and Rangeland Management
- Fences
- Water Developments (applicable to all programs)
- Travel Management (FSM 7700)
- Realty Actions (e.g., Land Exchanges, Transfers, and Sales)
- Vegetation and Resource Monitoring

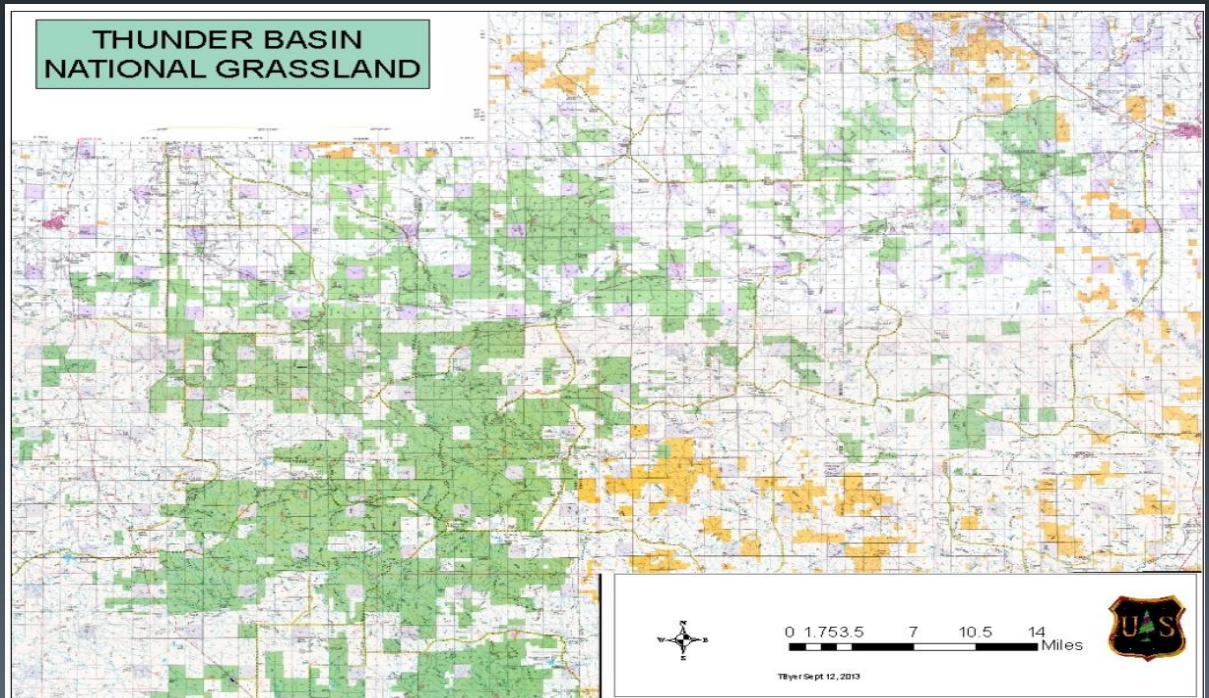
The DDCT Process when National Forest or National Grasslands are involved



THUNDER BASIN NATIONAL GRASSLAND



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If, on National Forest or Grassland surface,

The proponent FIRST works with the appropriate Forest Service Office on the DDCT process and disturbance delineations, then:



The FOREST SERVICE will submit the DDCT (and worksheet) for technical review to the DDCT Data Steward.



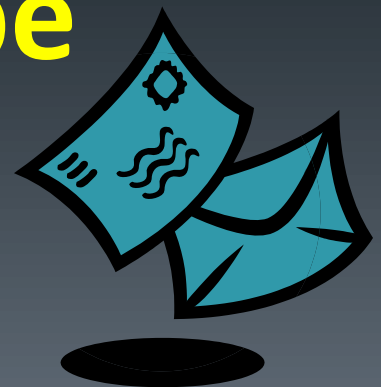
Once technical review is completed, the DDCT Data Steward submits the DDCT final results and DDCT worksheet to WGFD HPP for policy review.



**HPP coordinates with
state agencies and the
federal agency if there
are issues with SGEO
exceedances or
compliance**



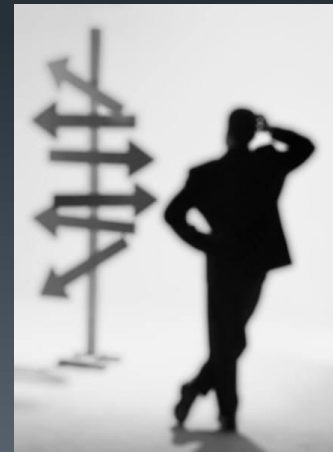
HPP then sends a letter regarding EO compliance and recommendations to the Forest Service and cc's the proponent and permitting agencies that may also be involved in the project.




The WGFD will determine whether or not the project complies in the EO, and may provide recommendations on whether the permit should be issued and/or recommendations on how impacts to the bird may be minimized.



These recommendations may or may not be accepted by the permitting agency and incorporated in the conditions of the permit.



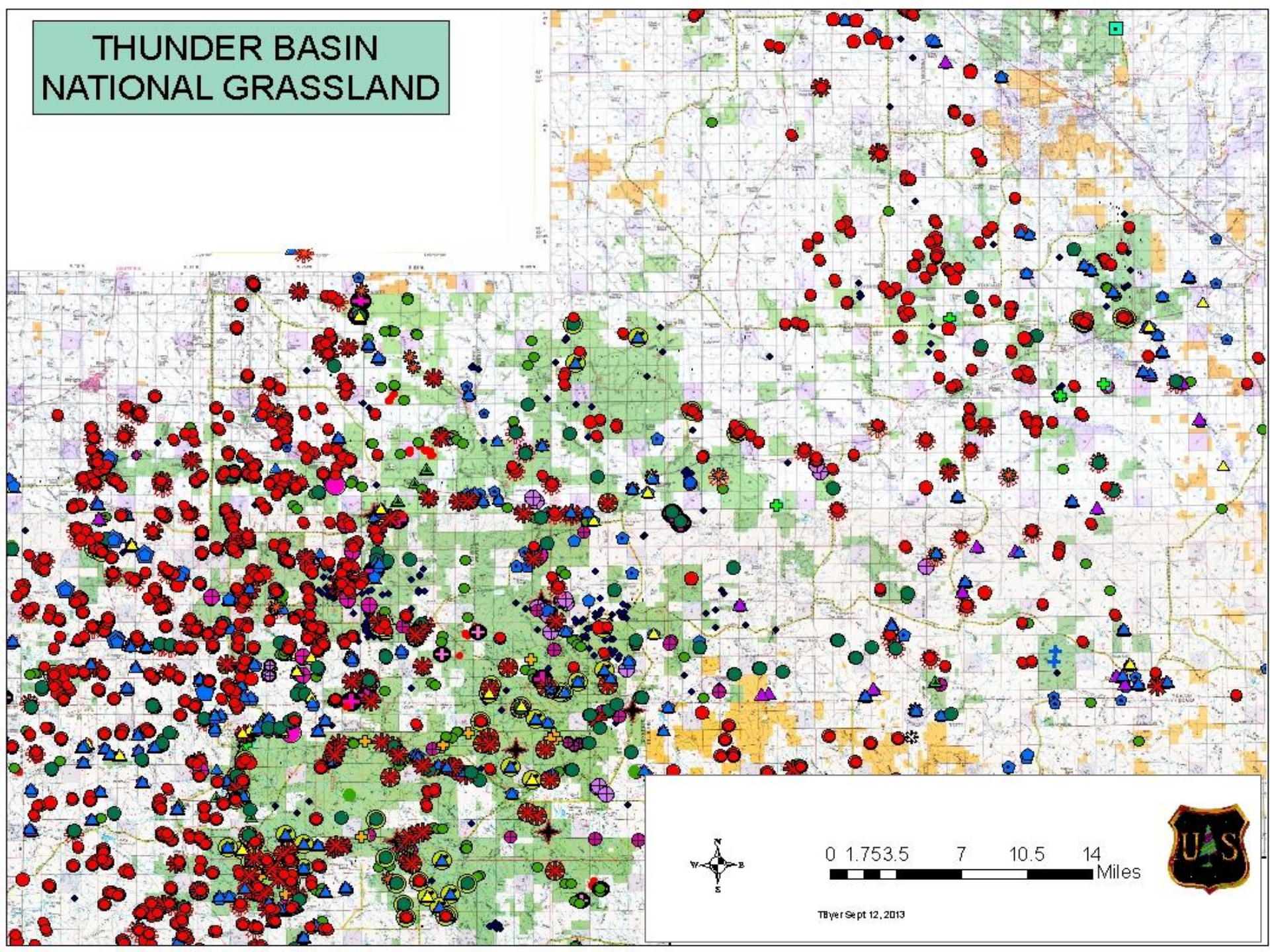


**This process only
provides analysis on
habitat impacts, it DOES
NOT make the decision
as to whether the
project will go forward**

The NEPA process will still be followed, and the final decision will be made by the Forest Service based on the outcome of the NEPA process



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Questions?

